

Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1.-14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A method for obtaining an aqueous catechin fraction enriched in epigallocatechin gallate from a green tea leaf, said aqueous catechin fraction having a higher concentration of epigallocatechin gallate than a concentration of epigallocatechin, said method comprising the steps of:

- submitting said green tea leaf to a first brew at a first brew temperature of between 20°C and 60°C for a period of between 5 and 80 minutes, thereby extracting epigallocatechin from said green tea leaf into a said first fraction brew;
- discarding the first fraction brew from step a) and collecting the green tea leaf as treated in step a);
- submitting the green tea leaf collected in step b) to a second brew at a second brew temperature of between 70°C and 90°C for a period of between 5 and 80 minutes, thereby extracting epigallocatechin gallate from said green tea leaf into a said second fraction brew; and
- collecting the second fraction brew from step c), said second fraction brew being a-the aqueous catechin fraction enriched in epigallocatechin gallate.

16-19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the submitting of the sufficient period of time of step a) is of 10 minutes, and wherein the sufficient period of time of step c) is of 10 minutes.
21. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the total catechin of the aqueous catechin fraction comprises at least 25% of epigallocatechin gallate.
22. (new) A method for obtaining an aqueous catechin fraction enriched in epigallocatechin gallate from a green tea leaf, said aqueous catechin fraction having a higher concentration of epigallocatechin gallate than a concentration of epigallocatechin, said method consisting essentially of the steps of:
 - a) submitting said green tea leaf to a first brew at a first brew temperature of between 20°C and 60°C for a period of between 5 and 80 minutes, thereby extracting epigallocatechin from said green tea leaf into said first brew;
 - b) discarding the first brew from step a) and collecting the green tea leaf as treated in step a);
 - c) submitting the green tea leaf collected in step b) to a second brew at a second brew temperature of between 70°C and 90°C for a period of between 5 and 80 minutes, thereby extracting epigallocatechin gallate from said green tea leaf into said second brew; and
 - d) collecting the second brew from step c), said second brew being the aqueous catechin fraction enriched in epigallocatechin gallate.
23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the period of step a) is of 10 minutes, and wherein the period of step c) is of 10 minutes.
24. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the total catechin of the aqueous catechin fraction comprises at least 25% of epigallocatechin gallate.

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25. (new) A method for obtaining an aqueous catechin fraction enriched in epigallocatechin gallate from a green tea leaf, said aqueous catechin fraction having a higher concentration of epigallocatechin gallate than a concentration of epigallocatechin, said method consisting of the steps of:
 - a) submitting said green tea leaf to a first brew at a first brew temperature of between 20°C and 60°C for a period of between 5 and 80 minutes, thereby extracting epigallocatechin from said green tea leaf into said first brew;
 - b) discarding the first brew from step a) and collecting the green tea leaf as treated in step a);
 - c) submitting the green tea leaf collected in step b) to a second brew at a second brew temperature of between 70°C and 90°C for a period of between 5 and 80 minutes, thereby extracting epigallocatechin gallate from said green tea leaf into said second brew; and
 - d) collecting the second brew from step c), said second brew being the aqueous catechin fraction enriched in epigallocatechin gallate.
26. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein the period of step a) is of 10 minutes, and wherein the period of step c) is of 10 minutes.
27. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein the total catechin of the aqueous catechin fraction comprises at least 25% of epigallocatechin gallate.